



City of Arts & Innovation

News Release

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Long Night of Arts & Innovation Returns to Downtown Riverside Oct. 8

The free, family event focuses on student achievement from elementary grades to college

RIVERSIDE, Calif. – Riverside's signature event, the Long Night of Arts & Innovation, will fill the streets of downtown on Oct. 8 with seven hours of dazzling programs for young and old, including science, art, music, medicine and engineering.

The event, which draws speakers and performers from local school districts, all four of Riverside's colleges and universities, the city's most innovative high-tech companies and a variety of local non-profit organizations, runs from 5 p.m. to midnight on and around the beautiful Main Street pedestrian mall in historic downtown Riverside.

"The Long Night of Arts and Innovation represents the best of Riverside," Mayor Rusty Bailey said. "This amazing event demonstrates the depth and breadth of scientific and artistic endeavor across our city. I encourage anyone with a love of learning, especially the parents and grandparents of our local students, to join us downtown for what will be an incredible night of discovery."

The free event offers families an opportunity to enjoy the best of the city's educational institutions, as well as art, entertainment, music and food. Teachers, professors, and scientists will mingle with singers, dancers, playwrights and poets, with a dash of spiders, robots, origami and chocolate thrown in.

New this year will be the Sister City Village on Main Street between 5th and 6th streets. Visitors will be able to learn the customs and traditions of Riverside's nine Sister Cities: Sendai, Japan; Obuasi, Ghana; Erlangen, Germany; Ensenada, Mexico; Gangnam, Republic of Korea; Cuautla, Mexico; Hyderabad, India; Jiangmen, People's Republic of China; Can Tho, Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

Returning to the Long Night of Arts and Innovation will be two popular features introduced in 2013: Curious Kids, an exploration zone full of innovative, interactive activities for children ages 10 and younger; and a passport program that enables students to get stamps at various presentations to record their attendance and share their Long Night experiences with classmates and friends.

The Long Night of Arts and Innovation also plays a key role in the development of future artists and scientists by encouraging school children to seek challenging careers in the arts and sciences. Students who attend the Long Night can interact with presenters, ask questions and get inspired by the real-life stories of local people who have enjoyed great success in the students' chosen fields of study.

The event also boosts the local business community by encouraging the development of future generations of artists and inventors, entrepreneurs and advocates. Students have their choice of hundreds of possible demonstrations, exhibits and gallery talks, all of which are provided at no charge.

Riverside's Long Night of Arts and Innovation, held every other year, was inspired by the Long Night of Science in Erlangen, Germany, one of Riverside's Sister Cities. The inaugural Long Night of Arts and Innovation in 2012 showcased more than 900 presentations, from art demonstrations at the Riverside Art Museum to a robotics display and a demonstration on Leonardo Da Vinci Machines.

Admission is free and all events are open to the public. For more information, visit our website at www.longnightriverside.com.